

The continuing insecurity and turmoil in Afghanistan has already resulted in the exodus of over half a million refugees to Pakistan and Iran. Over 90,000 Soviet troops are now occupying Afghanistan but fierce anti-Soviet resistance has brought a further deterioration in the security situation. A widespread insurgency continues in almost all areas of the Afghan countryside, while in the major cities urban terrorism and civil disobedience is on the rise.

We cannot say how long the situation described above is likely to continue, but we think that conditions approaching anarchy are likely to prevail for the foreseeable future. In addition, available evidence indicates that the widespread violations of human rights--including arbitrary arrest, summary executions, and torture-- which have characterized the Afghan regimes following the April 1978 revolution are continuing under the current regime.

In such circumstances, we believe no Afghans currently in the United States should be forced to return to Afghanistan.

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Cleared: NEA/PAB:RA/Peck

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
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